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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/748,897	12/27/2000	Takashi Kagawa	450100-02911	5247

20999 7590 02/07/2005

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NEW YORK, NY 10151

EXAMINER

BOCCIO, VINCENT F

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2616

DATE MAILED: 02/07/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/748,897

Applicant(s)

KAGAWA ET AL.

Examiner

Vincent F. Boccio

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-12 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-5, 7-10 and 12 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 6 and 11 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on ____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____. |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>7/2/04</u> . | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: ____. |

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DETAILED ACTION

The Group and/or Art Unit location of your application in the PTO has changed. To aid in correlating any papers for this application, all further correspondence regarding this application should be directed to Group Art Unit 2616.

Claim Objections

1. Claim 11 is objected to because of the following informalities:

{A} Claim 6, recites, line 3, "reducing the noise"; &

{B} Claim 11 recites, line 3, "reducing the noise", the examiner suggests, "reducing noise", for both occurrences, in view of the first time, "noise", has been recited.

Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

1. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

This application currently names joint inventors. In considering patentability of the claims under 35 U.S.C. 103(a), the examiner presumes that the subject matter of the various claims was commonly owned at the time any inventions covered therein were made absent any evidence to the contrary. Applicant is advised of the obligation under 37 CFR 1.56 to point out the inventor and invention dates of each claim that was not commonly owned at the time a later invention was made in order for the

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examiner to consider the applicability of 35 U.S.C. 103(c) and potential 35 U.S.C. 102(f) or (g) prior art under 35 U.S.C. 103(a).

2. Claims 1-5, 7-10 and 12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ohba (US 5,241,372).

Regarding claims 1-2, Ohba discloses and meets the limitations associated with an apparatus and corresponding method, for reproducing signals (col. 4, "video recorder, a video disc player"), having a function for decoding and reproducing video signals that are recorded and for intermittently updating (Fig. 9, "moving vector detector", col. 15, "preceding frame to a current frame", thereby comparing successive frames, generating motion vectors per/frame interval, thereby feeding 31 a, parameter generator 34, as shown in Fig. 1, to convolution filter 7, as shown in Fig. 4) and fetching the decoded video signals for every predetermined period of time in a unit of a frame, the device comprising:

- storing means for storing one or plural of the video signals (Fig. 4, col. 8, storage elements 12 a - 12 I, which store successive pixels of images/frames, over time, also memory elements 10 and 11);
- plural weighting means for multiplying (Fig. 4, 13 A to 13 I), the fetched video signals and/or stored in the storage means by their respective coefficients (Fig. 9 in view of filter in Fig. 4, coefficients represented by 6 A to 6 I & P1 to P9, which the coefficients are dictated by Fig. 9, "33", moving vector detection first stage 31 A to later stages 31 B to 31 N, for example);
- adder means for adding up the output signals of the plural weighting means (Fig. 4, adders 14 A to 14 H), wherein the fetched video signals are in effect gradually replaced and are output (cols. 11-12, based on the stages used).

Regarding claims 3-5, Ohba further discloses

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- plural weighting means for multiplying (Fig. 4);
- a passage (Fig. 4, "VP") for outputting the added signals;
- control means (Fig. 9, "33") for controlling the coefficients of the weighting means wherein the time (since motion vector detection between two frames is used, therefore, based on a frame interval), for replacing the fetched video signals is controlled (Fig. 1, 3, 4, Fig. 9);
- wherein the storage means stores in an unit of a frame or field (col. 2, lines 40-, col. 4, lines 11-, "frame memory").

Regarding claims 1 & 7-8, Ohba fails to disclose the video being in a compressed being reproduced, therefore fails to disclose the decompression decoding element, further fails to disclose in view of not being compressed an encoder element for compressing the video prior to recording and further fails to disclose a storage unit provided in the encoding circuit is used as the storage means.

The examiner takes official notice that encoding to perform compression, decompression of compressed, is well known in the art, further to utilize the memory means to encode, thereafter utilizing the memory means on reproduction is also considered to be well known, therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention, to encode using a memory, to compress video and store to media and thereafter to decode and utilize the memory means is obvious to those skilled in the art, wherein performing the teaching of Ohba to a signal provided from media compressed is considered obvious to perform the processing of Ohba on an originally compressed, decompressed signal such as in digital form by the digital filter, further to provide an encoding to compress and record video and to utilize a memory to encode and further processing, makes the device cheaper by using one memory element for multiple purposes, based on different modes of operation, as is well known to those skilled in the art.

Claims 9-10, 12 have been analyzed and discussed with respect to the claims above.

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Allowable Subject Matter

1. Claims 6 and 11 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

The prior art of record fails to teach, disclose or fairly suggest with respect to Ohba, the combination of claims 1 & 6 or claims 9 & 11, wherein the claims, additionally recite,

O reducing noise by a noise reducing circuit which reduces the noise by comparing the frames before and after the video signal wherein a storage unit provided in the noise reducing circuit is used as, the storage element, as recited in claim 6 and 11.

Contact Fax Information

Any response to this action should be mailed to:
Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks
Washington, D.C. 20231

or faxed to:

(703) 872-9314, (for formal communication
intended for entry)

or:

(703) 308-5359, (for informal or draft communications,
please label "PROPOSED" or "DRAFT")

Hand-delivered responses should be brought to Crystal
Park II, 2121 Crystal Drive, Arlington, VA., Sixth
Floor (Receptionist).


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Contact Information

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications should be directed to the examiner of record, Monday-Thursday, 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM Vincent F. Boccio (703) 306-3022.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application should be directed to Customer Service (703) 306-0377.

Primary Examiner, Boccio, Vincent
2/2/05


VINCENT BOCCIO
PRIMARY EXAMINER